

President.—Before we rise for lunch, I wish to point out that the general discussion of the Budget will have to be brought to a close before we disperse for lunch to-morrow, that is, by 2 o'clock in the afternoon. I do not know whether we shall be able to finish our work within that time. Many useful and instructive criticisms have been brought forward by the several members that I think it absolutely necessary for my Heads of Departments to explain their position in as clear a light as is possible. To that end, it may be necessary to cut short the time of speech to-morrow.

The Council adjourned for lunch at 2 p. m.

The Council resumed its sitting at 3 p. m.

President.—We shall now proceed to the next item in the list of business for the day. I call upon Mr. A. Sankara Puduval to move the following resolution which stands in his name :—

"This Council recommends to the Government that a grant-in-aid of not less than Rs. 5,000 be given to the Cochin Central Co-operative Institute for 1101 M. E., in order to enable the Institute to carry on successfully its educational and propagand work in the field of co-operation in the State."

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL (*Trichur*).

Mr. President,

I have great pleasure in moving this Resolution :—"This council recommends to the Government that a grant-in-aid of not less than Rs. 5,000 be given to the Cochin Central Co-operative Institute for 1101 M. E., in order to enable the Institute to carry on successfully its educational and propaganda work in the field of co-operation in the State."

Before I ask you to accept this resolution, it may not, perhaps, be out of place, if I offer a few remarks with regard to the scope of the institution, its aims and objects. So far as Co-operation proper is concerned, it has received universal acceptance, and the Government of Cochin has also been lending its support to this movement, though not judged by the extent of money, which has been contributed during the last ten years. Co-operative institutions were started about 12 years ago, just before Mr. Banerji retired from the office of Diwan, but the actual working of the Co-operative Societies commenced only in 1090 M. E. That is, we have been actually at work for the last 10 years—roughly ten years. It is a matter of gratification to

see that we have budgetted Rs. 1,000 more for the next year than the Government did for the year 1100 M. E. This expenditure is entirely for societies under Government management. The Co-operative Societies, now existing in the State are entirely under Government management and subject to Government control and supervision.

The Cochin Central Co-operative Institute was only started last year, under the presidency of Mr. Devadhar of Bombay. It has received recognition at the hands of the Government and His Highness, proficient as he is in all departments of financial administration, has been pleased to be the Patron of this institution and the then Diwan consented to be the *ex-officio* President of the institution. This is a purely non-official organisation, meant to educate the people, to do propaganda work and to finance the poor Co-operative Societies of the State.

So far as the probabilities of the Co-operative movement are concerned, I referred, in the course of the discussion on the budget, to the speech of His Majesty, the King Emperor. The Co-operative Societies of our State have received the recognition of the Government of India and, in a communication, received by the Registrar of the Co-operative Societies in 1925, the Government of India says that the Co-operative movement in Cochin has developed considerably. It was thought desirable, now that we have had ten years of experience in Co-operation, to start a non-official organisation. The Co-operative movement is a movement meant for unity. It makes no difference whatever among classes or creeds or communities; it is an all embracing universal organisation based upon mutual confidence, trust and co-operation. Whatever differences of opinion there might be in other activities of life, so far as the Co-operative movement is concerned, all are agreed as regards its utility and legitimate scope of work. In other Presidencies, notably in Bombay, there are non-official technical institutes. Government support was necessary to finance these institutions. These Co-operative Societies start with very small capital. They have to be financed, in the first instance. So far as India is concerned, His Majesty's Government found out that the people of India were rather slow to appreciate the benefits of the Co-operative movement and have suggested

that the Governments of all Presidencies, probably the Native States also, should take a lead in the matter, and spend Government money, till the people get accustomed and till they get properly trained up. And they say that Government would be doing a very useful work and spending its money very properly, in liberally contributing towards this end. As the time at my disposal is short, I will read a few sentences extracted from a speech which H. E. the Governor of Bombay delivered in 1921. "I have no doubt, it is already fully realised by all the delegates present that the existence of the Institute and its growing influence are a source of strength to even the poorest member in the humblest Society and that its guidance and opinions should be valuable and be valued by every Society in the Presidency; they undoubtedly are by the Co-operative Department and by the Government. Such a Central Institute has, in every country of the world, in which Co-operation has spread, been the foundation on which its policy and its safe and disciplined extension have been based."

Again, the Minister in charge of the Development Department in Bombay says (page 21 of the Co-operative Institute Proceedings, 1922), "We fully recognise that the Government must help the Institute and I am happy to say that, in the current year of grave financial stringency, we have been able to double the grant to the Co-operative Institute".

The work of the Central Institute is to assist the other societies existing in the State, principally by doing propaganda work and carrying principles of Co-operation home, into the very doors of these poor people. And these institutions mainly concern themselves with the agricultural and rural population, the poor working classes, the artisans and so on. The Board of management of our Institute consists of various individual members and officers, representing several Societies of the State. His Highness Rama Varma, the 15th Prince of Cochin, is our Vice-President. Mr. Mukundan Raja represents the Cochin Co-operative Central Bank, Ltd. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies is an *ex-officio* member. Messrs. K. P. Karuppan, M. C. Joseph, K. S. Govindan, M. Vasudevan Namburippad and K. Sankaran Namburi are

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some of the other members on the Board of management. Mr. Virkkey, who is a Government Servant in the Co-operative Department, is another member. To do propaganda work, money is wanted. The Society expects to collect about Rs. 10,000 in the first year, from its members by means of donations and subscriptions.

President.—May I ask the member whether any propaganda work is being done?

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL (*Trichur*).

It is being done, Sir.

Now, so far as this technical institute is concerned, the President might be aware of a request made by Mr. Devadhar himself for pecuniary help, I do not recollect whether it was to the present Diwan or to his predecessor. Government is in full sympathy with the movement. Now, the important functions which this technical institute has to discharge are education, propaganda work, organisation, financing, registration, supervision, enquiry and audit. In regard to these items of work, except in the matter of financing, a lot of work has been done and we want more money to push on the movement. The printed leaflets published (I do not know, if many of you have seen the leaflets) appeal to all Co-operators for active sympathy and support to start Training Schools for training of secretaries and voluntary workers for Co-operative Societies in the State. These officers do not receive any sort of travelling expenses or any remuneration. Money is required for doing propaganda work, to publish a hand-book in the vernacular, to deliver lectures in villages on Co-operation, the development of Agriculture and Industries, etc., etc., to hold periodic conferences, to appoint a mixed committee of officials and non-officials to study the needs of existing Societies and concert measures for their further growth; some portion of this work is being carried out. Much more remains to be done. Now, I request the House to sanction Rs. 5,000 for this purpose. We have a deficit budget; we are short of a lakh and 38,000 rupees; but we should not grudge this expense of Rs. 5,000, because this movement is mainly intended for people who are engaged in agricultural pursuits

and other minor industries. It has been found by long experience in the three Presidencies that the working of these Societies has conduced to the general prosperity of the subjects. Of course, when the subjects are prosperous, they should be able to contribute more liberally to the finances of the State. It should be very bad policy to say that the Government will be making a contribution when funds permit. As Macaulay says, the maxim "Do not get into the water, before you learn to swim" is hard to accept. These institutions teach poor people, artisans and workmen in general, the habits of thrift to enable them to earn money and become prosperous in the long run. In the opinion of the Supreme Government, any money spent in this direction is not wasted. It is a saving, a net asset. This is why I am advocating for a grant of Rs. 5,000, in spite of this deficit budget. Of course, if our unanimous opinion for the reductions proposed to the Government demands be accepted, no question of deficit arises. Even otherwise, I wish to press this point, that Rs. 5,000, which we request to be devoted to the Central Co-operative Institute will be, Rs. 5,000 usefully spent. I do not desire to make any further comments on this point. Much has been said and so much has been done in the Co-operative Department. He who now pretends to say anything original about it must be either a great man or a big fool. I disclaim to be either. I have said that this movement has the approval of the Government of India and all the Governments of the Presidencies also. I submit that this Co-operative movement has to be developed on proper, legitimate lines. The Rs. 11,000 budgetted, in this preliminary budget, would not serve our purpose. This Rs. 11,000 is meant only for Government work—official work to be done in the State. This demand is over and above the allotment for a purely non-official movement. It has been respectfully affirmed that, in the end, the Co-operative movement should be a purely non-official movement. Government should leave the whole working eventually to non-official societies, so that I, on behalf of the Central Technical Institute, request that members of the Council would be pleased to support this resolution.

① Mr. S. F. NUNEZ (*Anglo-Indian*),

Mr. President, Sir,

I rise to second this resolution. If we examine the several popular movements of modern times, we shall find that none has contributed more to the prosperity of the masses than the Co-operative movement. The Madras Government, realizing the immense possibilities of this movement, started a Co-operative Credit Department some 20 years ago; and we in Cochin following suit started one a few years after. During the short period of its existence, it has spread its beneficent activities over several parts of the State and has saved many a poor man from the clutches of the usurious money-lender and thereby from ruin and misery. But it must be admitted that much more has to be done before we could bring the full and varied benefits of the Co-operative movement to every village and every home in the State; and this final goal can be reached only through the medium of propaganda work. No great thing in the modern world is achieved without organised propaganda work. The Co-operative Central Institute was started with a view to collect all possible information on the methods and benefits of Co-operative movements and disseminate the same among the masses of people. The Institute is under the patronage of His Highness our beloved Maharaja who cherishes a tender solicitude especially for the poorer classes of the people. His Highness knows more than any one else that, for the fullest realisation in the State of the ideals of the Co-operative movement, the Central Institute which He has accordingly patronised is a very useful and important agency and I appeal to this House to follow the noble example set by His Highness by voting unanimously for the grant of Rs. 5,000 which is after all not a very big sum.

Before I conclude, may I point out, Sir, that Cochin, like many other parts of India, is an agricultural land and that Co-operation is a panacea for many of the evils that retard agricultural development. I shall take an example from history to convince you of this. Ireland was for centuries, not only under the political subjection of her powerful neighbour, England, but was the victim of a very harassing agrarian policy by the

latter with the result that for long the "Emerald Isle" was the most backward agricultural country in Europe. But today she is one of the most prosperous in this respect. This is chiefly due to the fact that, in recent years, Irish leaders brought home to the minds of the starving Irish peasants that their economic salvation lay in the proper working out of the Co-operative movement. It is true that Cochin is not so backward an agricultural country as Ireland was some decades ago; but no one can deny that the condition of our peasantry is still very deplorable. We can improve their position and make them contented only if we bring the blessings of the Co-operative movement to the door of every poor man's cottage in our State. The Central Co-operative Institute, manned by a committee consisting of men of character, power and prestige and animated by a spirit of social service, undertakes to do this noble work; and I feel fully assured that this House would help the Institute to carry out its object by recommending to the Government a grant of Rs. 5,000 which it asks for.

Mr. N. PADMANABHA MENON (*Cranganur*).

My amendment, Sir, is this:— Instead of the words "not less than Rs. 5,000", substitute "a sum of Rs. 1,000." My amendment is based more upon the merits of the question and upon the exigencies of this year's budget than upon any sentiment or principle. I shall explain my reasons briefly. As the mover of the resolution himself has admitted, the Co-operative movement of the State was first organised ten years back. The principal reason adduced for the the proposed grant is to enable another new-born society to carry on educational and propaganda work. One of the objects of the existence or continuance of the Co-operative Department in Cochin is for doing propaganda work. It is a small department, its direct activities in managing and supervising Co-operative Societies are limited, and the object with which a full-timed Registrar of Co-operative Societies, well-versed in the working of the department, was appointed was that he should organise and carry on propaganda work also. If, during the ten years of existence of this department, it was not able to carry on any educational and propaganda work, I may tell this House that there is no use of financing a new-born society. Moreover, suppose the House is prepared

to make this grant, it is a tacit admission that the reason for the continuance of the Co-operative Department is gone. I concede that educational and propaganda work are necessary. I shall, for argument's sake, also concede that it could not be done by the present department under the present circumstances. The principal lines on which propaganda work could be done are by lantern lectures and by issuing pamphlets. The printing of these pamphlets could be done by the Government Press if the Government is in sympathy with the movement. There are magic lanterns in the Government College and in some of the High Schools of the State. They can be placed at the disposal of the Society. So, if these two important lines of help could freely be given by the Printing Department of the Government and by the Education Department my opinion is that the major portion of the expenses for this propaganda work need not otherwise be provided for.

And this is the explanation why I oppose the present resolution and press the amendment. Moreover, the exigencies of this year's budget also demand careful handling of the situation. I understand from the Statement that a sum of thousand rupees, over and above the budget for 1100, has been provided for in this year's budget under the head of "Co-operative Societies" and this amount may very well be utilised for this. Then the mover himself has admitted that there was a Government Proceedings sympathising with the movement and promising financial help wherever possible. I again say that this is not a moment when we should grant money to pioneer work when that pioneer work could be done by the Government itself. Just as a sign that the Government is in sympathy and just as a beginning, I propose that instead of Rs. 5,000 a sum of thousand rupees may be given to the Society for carrying on its educational and propaganda work.

Mr. K. KRISHNA MENON (*Pazhayannur*).

I second the amendment.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

Sir, I beg leave to be permitted to support this first non-official resolution. I consider it indeed a happy augury that, amidst jarring sounds of Non-Co-operation reverberating in other climes and other institutions, we have the good fortune to begin non-official business by striking a note of Co-operation. Co-operation among the people leads to contentment and

happiness and a people who are contented and happy will be the first to co-operate with the Government.

I appeal to this House, on behalf of a world-wide movement on whose branches the sun never sets—a universal brotherhood admittedly capable of immense possibilities for the economic reconstruction of the people. In fact, the Co-operative movement is an educative movement. It teaches you to control your finances, to husband your resources properly and to make the largest possible saving out of your income. A man brought under such influences can never be a prey to vices, and the result of Co-operative education is to elevate the moral man also.

Here is a testimony regarding this movement from the late Prime Minister of England. Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, in proposing the toast of "The Co-operative movement" on the occasion of the visit of the Prince of Wales to the Great Co-operative Warehouses in London, said, "This Co-operative movement gives us a magnificent example of how to do public work. It is a combination of faith and practical help". Robert Owen had said: 'You have to begin at the bottom, and it is only when you have laid your foundations well that you can afford to put on an artistic superstructure and finish it, not merely with the work of the craftsman, but with the winged art of the artist.' The Co-operative movement combines both the solid foundation and the artistic decoration and finish. I am perfectly certain that, whatever is going to be the fate of this country, the Co-operative movement is always coming to its aid. The Co-operative movement is an extraordinary mixture of men and women of all sorts of temperaments and ideals; nevertheless it lives from day to day. It sees more clearly from day to day what it should do. With all its ups and downs, it will continue to progress and will continue the ideals of its great founders."

Ever since 1083, and even before, the Diwans of Cochin have incessantly been striking notes of alarm in their Budget Statement that while all possible sources of revenue have been fully tapped, expenditure is bound to increase. Even now, we are in such an un-

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pleasant situation; and this can be averted only by finding new sources of revenue. Wherever the revenue comes from, its final incidence is on the people generally; so that a condition precedent to all taxation is the economic wellbeing mainly of the agriculturists. I have it on good authority that, under present conditions, no tax of whatever nature can be levied except a tax on excessive incomes whose existence nobody is prepared to admit. Our attempts in improving Industry and to introduce new methods of finding a livelihood have admittedly failed. We must turn to and depend upon Agriculture. In this line, we have spent lakhs and lakhs on the Agricultural Department. But it has not been productive of any good. My attempt is to show that the lot of the agriculturist can be improved through Co-operation and that to a very large extent, so that his tax-paying capacity also will be increased.

Co-operation improves economic well-being by

1. Increasing income by providing facilities for earning,
2. Reducing expenditure by compelling the cultivation of the habit of thrift and introducing cheaper Co-operative methods in every-day walks of life.

Facilities for earning are provided and increased by financing Agriculture and Cottage Industries through Co-operative Credit Societies at low rates of interest and on easy terms of repayment. This form of Co-operation is familiar to us and perhaps this is the only form with which we are conversant.

You will agree with me that the poor agriculturists carry on their operations by borrowing at a very high rate of interest; generally not less than 36 per cent. Societies lend money ordinarily at the rate of 12 per cent and in several places less but never more. On a calculation from the figures supplied in the Report on the Administration of Cochin, there are 8,600 Agricultural Co-operators in the State representing 8,600 families more or less. The interest they paid on the amount they borrowed in 1939 is Rs. 43,000 and as per the calculation the amount that they have thereby saved is Rs. 86,000, that is to say, Rs. 10 per family. Now this is only through the operation of one small branch of Co-operation on a very small scale; for the amount borrowed by each member is on an average only Rs. 40

a year. An agriculturist needs much more than Rs. 40. Increase it to Rs. 100 and his saving in interest alone will be Rs. 25 every year. If Co-operation spreads and permeates every home, our two lakhs of families of agriculturists will in a year save 50 lakhs of rupees.

This is not all. I have only touched one small side of Co-operation. Co-operation has several branches, and, in Europe and America, they have been developed to the fullest extent. I shall not dwell upon them in detail but only just refer to a few branches.

1. Manure supply Societies 2. Seeds supply Societies 3. Implements supply Societies. 4. Co-operative Consolidation of the holdings Societies. 5. Co-operative irrigation Societies. 6. Co-operative farming. 7. Co-operative marketing. 8. Co-operative sale of agricultural produce. 9. Co-operative Electricity Societies. 10. Co-operative Hospitals. 11. Rural Distributive Co-operative Societies. 12. Co-operative Arbitration Societies. 13. Co-operative Antimalaria Societies. 14. Co-operative Post Offices. 15. Crop Protection Societies. 16. Co-operative Printing Presses.

Develop Co-operation on these lines, and I dare say that there will be considerable improvement in the economic condition of the people and in their tax-paying capacity.

To achieve this, the people have to be educated, and the Institute is attempting that. This aspect of Co-operative education is thus referred to by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies in his Report on their working in 1909:—"There are possibilities for more achievements and more work lies ahead for which propoganda, mainly non-official, has to be done. It is hoped that the Central Co-operative Institute which will be started soon will largely supplement the efforts of the department in this direction."

The Central Institute of Bombay has worked wonders and we too shall emulate them. But for all work money is needed. You are spending 12 lakhs on general education. Economic education is not a bit less important. We ask only for Rs. 5,000, that is, 1/1400th part of the budgetted expenditure. This can be made

up of crumbs here and there. I hope the non-official-members will maintain unanimity in carrying this first non-official resolution.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

Sir, I rise to support the original proposition and oppose the amendment. If we look at statistics, we find that only a pie per head has been asked for. We have ten lakhs of people in Cochin roughly and the amount that has been asked for from the amount collected from these ten lakhs, is only five thousand rupees. It works out a little less than a pie per head of the population. I think it would be a very parsimonious policy to refuse the grant of a pie per head of the population, for a movement which is going to be a pioneer one in the proper cultivation of Co-operation in the State. The Army and the Navy Co-operative Society that was started some time ago is now a world-wide organisation, and it started from very limited beginnings and have spread like a monster throughout the world administering to the needs of those within that Co-operative Society in full. Looking at the character and standing of the gentlemen who have found this Institute, we have the assurance, if any assurance were needed, that the movement they have started is one that deserves all encouragements at our hand. If it was within our power to abolish the Co-operative Societies altogether, we could save Rs. 11,300 to the State, and spend Rs. 5,000 in this Society. For, the object of both the Co-operative Societies and this Institute is identical. In one case, we have got honorary workers in the Institute while we have only paid workers in the departmental activities of the Co-operative Societies.

Sir, I find again that Rs. 84,852 is spent upon the Agricultural Department. I would ask my honourable friend, the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats, to allow this Rs. 5,000 that is asked for the Co-operative Institute for the development of Agriculture, for redeeming the ryot from his chronic indebtedness and for advancing him on the way to prosperity, to cut short his expenditure and be liberal enough to grant this Rs. 5,000 to this Institute for propaganda work and for carrying the spirit of Co-operation and the knowledge of thrift to the very

door of the ryot for the better prosperity of the land. The object of the Society has been said to be to propagate the art of thrift and the methods of raising good, substantially profitable undertakings through agricultural and local industries which are possible in the villages. Of course, it is from small beginnings that we come to large things. If the Government can fully entrust their activity to this Institute, it would be effecting a great saving financially. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies as a full time worker can be added to this Society and by that, we will save at least Rs. 8,150. The object of the Government, I take it, Sir, is to develop the capacities and to eke out the abilities of the population and, when they come forward to act in their own interest without pay and take upon themselves the functions hitherto discharged as a matter of encouragement by the Government, it is the duty of the Government to encourage that spirit and to save the costly establishment of departmental workers by replacing them with honorary workers of status, standing and character, if necessary under strict official supervision. With these few words, I support the original resolution most heartily and oppose the amendment.

ബ്രഹ്മശ്രീ ശങ്കരൻ നമ്പൂതിരി (ചെയർമാൻ).

മിസ്റ്റർ ശങ്കരപ്പുതുവാർ ഇവിടെ ഹാജരാക്കിയ പ്രമേയത്തിന്റെ ആവശ്യകതയെപ്പറ്റി എടുത്ത മുൻഗാമികൾ പറഞ്ഞുകഴിഞ്ഞു. അവർക്കു കൂടുതലായി ഒന്നും എനിക്ക് പറയാനില്ല. വരുന്ന സഹായ സംഘങ്ങളുടെ നടത്തിപ്പിൽ ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ചേർന്നോടും ചെയ്യും. നാട്ടുകാർക്കുണ്ടാകുന്ന പ്രയത്നിക്കുകയുമാണു വേണ്ടത്. സംഘപ്രവർത്തനമാരെ ഉപദേശിപ്പാനും സംഘതത്വങ്ങളെ പ്രചരിപ്പിക്കുവാനും ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർക്കു നട്ടുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കും സൗകര്യം. എന്റെ അനുഭവത്തിൽ പെട്ടിടത്തോളം ഇതിലാണ് കൂടുതൽ ഫലം കണ്ടെത്തുന്നത്. അതുകൊണ്ടു മിസ്റ്റർ പുതുവാളുടെ പ്രമേയത്തോടു ഞാൻ പൂർണ്ണമായി യോജിക്കുന്നു.

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON (*Secretary to the Legislative Council*).

Sir, I am sorry I have to rise to a point of order. Rule 38 runs thus:—'The President may disallow any resolution if it contravenes any of the Rules or the Standing Orders, or, if in his opinion, it cannot be moved consistently with the public interests'. Then I invite your kind attention to Rule 50 which enjoins

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that "No motion for appropriation shall be made except on the recommendation of the Government". My point is this: I do not think that any member has got the right to ask the Government to appropriate its revenue for any particular purpose.

Mr. A. B. SALEM, (*Jews*).

Sir, I think it relates only to the budget and not to any resolution.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON, (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

This is a general resolution and not a budget motion.

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON, (*Secretary to the Legislative Council*).

What will be the effect of its being passed by the Council?

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON, (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

If the Diwan permits the resolution, it can be discussed in the Council. Increased expenditure can be recommended in a general resolution.

Mr. A. B. SALEM, (*Jews*).

It is a recommendation to the Government. It may be or may not be incorporated in the budget.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON, (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

We are not discussing the budget now. That rule applies only to the discussion of the budget.

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON, (*Secretary to the Legislative Council*).

In the chapter on Resolutions, it is stated that the President might disallow any resolution, if it contravenes any of the Rules. And this resolution contravenes Rule 50. If this is allowed, it would come to this: any member could ask for the appropriation of the revenue for any society. I might ask for a Research Institute; another for a Leather Industry, and a third for a Rubber Estate. What cannot be done during the budget debate cannot be effected by means of a resolution. By a resolution, then, you can nullify the rules of the chapter on the budget. The way to proceed in this matter is to request the Government to recommend this grant by a memorial or through the Co-operative Registrar.

Mr. A. B. SALEM, (*Jews*).

Can he explain like this?

President.—He can explain as to what the point of order is.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON, (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

Rules are not superior to the Regulation passed.

Section 12 of the Council Regulation does not prohibit this discussion.

President.—But the Secretary's point of view is this: This matter relates to para 118 (i) of the Council Manual; and so no motion for appropriation can be made except on the recommendation of the Government.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON, (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

Any resolution affecting the revenues of the State can be moved, provided the Diwan in writing permits it to be moved. That was done.

Mr. A. B. SALEM, (*Jews*).

Even the leave is required only to measures and not to resolutions. This will be seen from the Manual and from the Rules as originally passed. Rule 50 comes in the Budget chapter only.

President.—Only there?

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON, (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

This Rule comes entirely under the Chapter on Budget in the Manual.

President.—It is so.

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL, (*Trichur*).

I request the members to ignore the Manual. Personally, I do not think it is of any use.

(Hear! hear! from the Council Secretary.)

Rao Sahib T. V. KASTURI RANGA AYYAR, (*Diwan Prishkar*).

Under para 95 of the Manual, the President has anyway allowed the discussion of the resolution.

President.—The resolution may be proceeded with.

Mr. K. S. RAMA AYYAR, (*Trippunittura*).

Sir, I am inclined to say that the Government have not as yet realised the beauties and possibilities of the Co-operative movement as well as it ought to have. The department is very badly manned. Co-operation is under the guidance of, besides the Registrar, three Inspectors on Rs. 35—50 who have to go from Society to Society on a travelling allowance of 8 as. a day. The Co-operative Central Bank, the premier Co-operative institution in the State and the only financing agency for all the one hundred or more Societies in the State, has got only a deposit of Rs. 25,000 from the Government, and I have personal knowledge of how much the Central Bank had to fight to get this credit.

The Central Bank asked for a loan from the Government soon after the floods, and sent up a beautiful scheme. The reply of the Government was quite unsympathetic. If the Government had realised that the Central Bank is built upon the solid foundation of the unlimited liability of the thousands of members of a hundred societies, I am sure the Government would not have characterised the loan as one for experimental purposes and would have added to the credit of this movement by granting at least a fraction of what they asked for. Now a resolution has come up asking for a grant towards the Central Co-operative Institute more or less a charitable institution of laudable aims and objects. I trust that the Government of to-day will fully recognise that Co-operation has an unlimited future before it, and the Institute is meant to bring that future near in all its beauties. If there is anything wrong in the working of the Co-operative Department or of any Co-operative Society, it must be clearly understood that it is not the fault of Co-operation but of something else.

If there are any such faults, this Institute is the proper remedy for it.

I support the resolution most heartily and oppose the amendment.

Mr. O. R. CHUMMAR (*Vellarappalli*)

I believe this Council feels no doubt as regards the necessity and utility of developing the spirit of Co-operation in this country. To say that we do not want to develop the spirit of Co-operation is to say that we do not want to make any progress, social or economic, in other words to make any advance in civilization. We know that in modern times the civilization is based mainly if not entirely upon the Co-operative movement. It is the spirit of Co-operation that has enabled us to have the modern system of trade and industry on a large scale and it is only undertakings on a large scale that will pay us in these days of keen competition. As the budget for the coming year shows a deficit, it is clear that the economic condition of the people is too low to cope with the requirements of the country. There is therefore an absolute necessity that we should do all that is in our power to develop the

economic condition of the people in every direction. We know that the Co-operative movement is the only means by which we can be saved; that is the only force that can free us from economic bondage to foreign countries. In our country the Co-operative movement has not met with as much success as it deserves, because sufficient propaganda work has not been carried out and I feel, no doubt, that no amount of money spent upon propaganda work will be a waste. The amendment proposed by the honourable member for Cranganur is based partly on an assumption that the Government officials have sufficient time to carry on this propaganda work. I do not mean to discuss whether they have sufficient time to carry on that work. Even if they have time, it is undesirable that they should attempt to do it; for they can never succeed so well as the non-official agency. It is only the non-officials that can move with the people freely, win their confidence and inculcate into their minds that trust and brotherly feeling which is the basis of Co-operation. On the other hand any attempt made by Government officials will be viewed with suspicion by the common people. The spirit of Co-operation must grow from within and what the Government should do is only to help those who are carrying on the propaganda. The help sought to be given by the resolution is quite moderate and I strongly support the original resolution and oppose the amendment.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കുറുപ്പൻ (വാലന്മാർ.)

കൊച്ചിൻ റെവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെന്റിൽ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർക്ക് ഇപ്പോഴുള്ള ചുമതലകൾ തന്നെ ശരിയായി നടത്തുന്നതിന്നു സമയം ഇല്ലാതിരിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥിതിക്ക്, (താഴെ പറയുന്നതായ അതായത്) കായ് ലാഭത്തിന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശങ്ങൾ കൊച്ചി സംസ്ഥാനത്തു് പരസ്പര സഹായ പരിവൃത്തിക്ക് സർവ്വതന്ത്ര അഭിവൃദ്ധി ഉണ്ടാക്കുക, വിവിധ പരസ്പര സഹായ മന്ദിരങ്ങൾ കേന്ദ്രീകരണം വഹിച്ചു പ്രവർത്തിക്കുക, പരസ്പര സഹായ സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള എല്ലാ ഉദ്ദേശങ്ങളെയും സൂക്ഷ്മ ചലനത്തിന്നു് വേണ്ട പ്രോത്സാഹനം നൽകുക, സഹകരണ പരിവൃത്തി സംബന്ധിച്ച സാമാന്യമായ പ്രായസ്ത്രം അർഹിക്കുന്ന ഏതു സംഗതിയെക്കുറിച്ചും ഇൻഡ്യയിലുള്ള സഹകരണ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾക്കും, തദ്ദേശങ്ങൾക്കും ഉള്ള അഭിപ്രായങ്ങൾ ധരിക്കുകയും പ്രാശ്നിച്ചിടത്തെയും പരിശോധിക്കുന്നവരാണ്. വിശിഷ്ട, അംഗങ്ങൾക്കും സഹകരണ വിഷയത്തിൽ പ്രത്യേക പരിശീലനം നൽകുന്നതിന്നും അദ്ധ്യാപനങ്ങൾ, പ്രസംഗങ്ങൾ, ലഘുലേഖകൾ, മാസികകൾ, വൃത്താന്ത പത്രങ്ങൾ, ഗ്രന്ഥ

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ശലകൾ എന്നിവ വഴിയായി സഹകരണതത്വങ്ങളെ പ്രചരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനും പരിചിതമായ പഴയ രാധകന്മാരെയും സഹായിക്കാനുള്ളതും നിർമ്മിക്കാൻ പരസ്പരസഹായസംഘടന വിസ്തൃതമാക്കുന്നതിനും ആകുന്നു. ഈ ഉദ്ദേശങ്ങൾ നടപ്പിൽവരുത്താൻ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർക്കു സാധിക്കാത്തതായും, ഇവ നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തുന്നതു സംസ്ഥാനത്ത് ലെ സഹകരണസംഘങ്ങൾക്കു പ്രത്യേകം ഉപകാരം ഉണ്ടാകയാലും ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു.

Mr. GEORGE CHAKYAMURI (*Palivirutti*).

Sir, The Co-operative movement has been in our midst for the last ten years. Nobody can deny the fact that it has done wonders; it has achieved wonderful results both by teaching the ryot to live a frugal life and by saving him from the clutches of the money-lenders. But the movement has not perhaps achieved the result which it would have done, due to the fact that proper spread of Co-operative ideas is not done among the masses. Now that the work of spreading the Co-operative idea among the masses is taken up by non-official agency, I should think that it is the duty of the Government to give every possible manner of help to these non-officials and to give them every sort of encouragement it can. It has already the sympathy of the Government and our Maharaja is the Patron and the Diwan the *ex-Officio* President, and I think it all the more reasonable that, when a sort of substantial sympathy is asked of us, we should extend it all the more willingly. According to my view, it would look highly ridiculous that our beloved Maharaja should accept the patronage and that we should show reluctance when some tangible sympathy is asked of us. I therefore support the original resolution and oppose the amendment.

Mr. V. K. KOCHUNNI MENON (*Ernakulam*).

Sir, The question is not whether Co-operative Societies would be beneficial to the State or not; but whether the grant should be given to a new Society like the Institute. Now, the benefit of Co-operation and of Co-operative Societies is admitted by all. The State itself has started a Co-operative Department only a few years ago and the results are admittedly very satisfactory. Then why not place a little more reliance on that department for some time longer? Now, the last speaker would even suggest the discontinuance of

that department altogether and entrust that business to a new Society. What is the guarantee that this new Society will be more beneficial than this? With regard to the present department we know that it has produced very good results while as to the other the result remains to be known. It seems to me that the Government would not be justified in making the grant and that especially in the present financial position. I therefore oppose the resolution.

Mr. MATHEW KOLADI VADAKKOT (*Kunnamkulam.*)

Sir, I support the original resolution. A note of discontent has already been raised on the ground that the Institute has not long been established. It is on that same ground that I support the resolution. It is a new society and so it needs money. If it is a fully developed Institute, it can find money from other sources and it does not become necessary to ask for any grant from the Government.

The Institute is managed by non-officials and that goes to its credit. They are voluntary workers and do not seek to receive any amount as salary. This goes to show that the Society is very likely to succeed. We should give sufficient encouragement to non-officials to start and work such Societies for the benefit of the people in the State. On this ground also I support the resolution.

Mr. A. K. VENGU AYYAR (*Secretary to the Dhwani*).

Sir, As mentioned by the mover himself, the resolution before the House is not the first intimation to Government on the subject.

Mr. Devadhar of the Servants of India Society, well-known for his work in the Co-operative field, approached the Government with a request to help the organisers of the Cochin Central Co-operative Institute with a handsome contribution, which, as he said, could alone assist them to start the work which they had in view and which was so ably set forth by the mover of the resolution. The objects of the Institute were so laudable and its activities so helpful to the material prosperity of the State that it enlisted at once the sympathy of the Government and they went into it in detail. No doubt the Government would have been

glad, if some of the bye-laws of the Institute had been modified; for instance, if the Institute had limited its operations to the confines of the State and given a controlling voice to the Patron of the President. These were not, however, insisted on. Government exempted the Institute from the ordinary conditions of registration, as the Institute seemed capable of really good work. Moral support in every form was, therefore, given to the Institution. His Highness the Maharaja consented to be its Patron and the Diwan its President. More substantial help the Government could not render, as the financial condition of the State made it imprudent to attempt it. In the words of the Proceedings, passing final orders on the question, "Government realise any contribution made by them will be for the promotion of a praise-worthy object. But, having regard to want of funds at present, they regret that they have to put off the consideration of giving financial help to the Institute, till better times turn up". The Preliminary Budget before the House has to a great extent disclosed what our present financial position is and this could reasonably be expected to carry conviction to all that Government could not, for the present, do more for this Institution than at present.

The Co-operative movement is in essence a peoples' movement and Government should not do anything which would weaken the feeling of self-help, self-reliance and independence, on which the movement must rest. The motion for a grant-in-aid of Rs. 5,000 in 1901, during which period, according to reports, the Institute cannot hope to collect more than Rs. 850, is hardly helpful to the development of this self-reliance, especially in view of the fact that the estimate of expenditure drawn up by the Institute itself for the year is Rs. 6,450.

The resolution, as it stands, would lead one to infer that the grant-in-aid of Rs. 5,000, now asked for, is to be only a first instalment. If this is so, it goes still further against the principle of the movement.

The resolution under discussion has the disadvantage that it has not much to draw upon from the experiences of similar institutions elsewhere. The

Government have collected some details and, for aught they know, like institutions exist only in Bombay and Mysore. The Government of Bombay gave the Bombay Co-operative Institute a grant of Rs. 25,000, but they took the precaution to attach a condition to it, viz., that their grant will be limited to what the Institute manages to collect by way of subscriptions. The Institute in Mysore has not been able to move their Government even to this extent. In view of these examples, the Government will, I think, be justified, if they hesitate to make a grant to the Central Institute here.

There is still another point which should weigh with the Government. There is already the Co-operative movement flourishing in the State, under the aegis of Government supervision and official efforts. Its achievements have been a striking feature during the last decade and there is every sign that it will fill a larger sphere of usefulness in the near future. Statistics, I consider, will be out of place now.

This large movement is guided and controlled by the Co-operative Department and representations have been received from the officer in charge, urging the necessity for strengthening the supervising staff, in view of the magnitude of the responsibility they have to shoulder and to sustain the confidence which the people have reposed in them. It is only fair that, in view of the tangible results of the work turned out by the Department, their claims should be respected, at least, in an equal measure with the claims of the Central Institute. The request of the Co-operative Department the Government had to lay aside for lack of funds. They cannot now deal differently with the Central Institute.

I hope, I have made clear the view of the Government on the resolution now under discussion. I must however lay stress on the fact that this attitude of Government should be correctly understood as not of hostility to the principle of the resolution but of its expediency at this time. Therefore, while opposing any grant for the year 1926 to the Central Co-operative Institute, I adhere to the orders already referred to,

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viz., that Government are constrained to put off the consideration of giving financial help till better times turn up.

Mr. A. SANKARA MENON (*Government Advocate and Law Member*).

I am both against the resolution and the amendment and that, on a principle. Now, I am not against Co-operation and I am not against pecuniary help being rendered by Government for the purpose of advancing Co-operation. But this resolution does not recommend that any sum or any minimum sum should be spent by Government on Co-operation or a particular form of Co-operation. This resolution says that the Government should make a gift of a minimum sum to a particular Society. The Government should hand over the money to that Society, without any control or voice in the spending of it. I submit that such a resolution should not be accepted. The reason is this: There may be many institutions coming up for aid. Government should have a discretion as to which institutions should be supported by pecuniary help. This resolution does not give any option. Therefore, I say that this resolution should not be accepted by the House.

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON (*Secretary to the Legislative Council*).

Mr. President,

I do not think any member of this House need be told about the objects and benefits of the Co-operative movement. I do not think we need be told about the glories of Co-operation. The point is whether the Government would be justified in giving this grant of Rs. 5,000 for an association like the one referred to in the resolution. Now, a few of the objects of the association, as seen from the note-book in my hand, are the publication of journals, delivery of speeches regarding the aims of Co-operative societies, etc. Is it the contention of the mover, as well as of the other speakers, that even after 10 years, the Co-operative movement has not taken root in Cochin? Is it their contention that some sort of propaganda work, like the publication of magazines and newspapers and the delivery of speeches are required to advertise it? If that is so, then I beg

to submit that it would be an insult to the department. On the other hand, the Reports on the Administration and the Budget itself amply show that the movement has taken root, vigorously and healthily. I do not think, it should require the fostering care of a newly started association to prop it up or to spread its usefulness. As the Law Member pointed out, a precedent, like this, of making a grant for particular associations on the motion of members who might take an interest in them, should not be created. Therefore, I beg to oppose this resolution.

മിസ്റ്റർ എഡ്വേർഡ് അസ്ട്രൂക്ക് (അഡ്വർ),

ഈ പ്രമേയത്തിന്റെ ആദ്യകർത്താവിനോടു ഞാൻ പൂർണ്ണമായി യോജിക്കുന്നു. ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ പറ്റി ശരിയായ ഒരു അറിവു എനിക്കുണ്ടെന്നുള്ള കാരണത്തിന്മേലല്ലെന്നുമാത്രമല്ല, ഇല്ലെന്നുള്ള കാരണത്തെ അടിസ്ഥാനപ്പെടുത്തി തന്നെയാണു് ഞാൻ ഇതു നോട്ടു പ്രത്യേകമായി യോജിക്കുന്നത്. ഈ ഒരു സഹായം അത്യാവശ്യമായിട്ടുള്ളതെന്നു. ഇതിന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശം പരസ്പര സഹായം തുല്യരായി പൊതുജനങ്ങളുടെ ഇടയിൽ ഒരു ശരിയായ അറിവു ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനാണെന്നു ഈ പ്രമേയം ഘോഷരാക്കിയ ആർതന്നെ സവിസ്തരം നമ്മെ മനസ്സിലാക്കിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇതിനാൽ ഇതിന്റെ ശരിയായ ഒരു ജ്ഞാനം ഈ രാജ്യത്തു ഉണ്ടാകും എന്നു നമുക്കു വിശ്വസിക്കാം. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തെ പരിപൂർണ്ണമാക്കാനും ഇതു ഉപകരിക്കും. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ബി. എ. യൊ എം. എ. യൊ പഠിച്ചുപോകുന്നവർക്കും പരസ്പരസഹായം എന്ന വിഷയത്തിൽ പ്രത്യേക ജ്ഞാനം ഉണ്ടെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഈ കാരണങ്ങളെക്കൊണ്ടു് എത്രതന്നെ ഉയന്നതരം വിദ്യാഭ്യാസങ്ങൾ ഈ നാട്ടിൽ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നാലും ഈ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനു പ്രത്യേകം ഒരു സഹായം ചെയ്യുകൊടുക്കുന്നത് ഒരിക്കലും അസ്ഥാനത്താവുകയില്ല. കൂടാതെ, എനിക്കു ഇതിനെ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നതിനു പ്രത്യേക ഒരു സന്തോഷം ഉള്ളതു് ആദായമായി നാം ആരംഭിച്ച ഈ യോഗത്തിൽ കൊണ്ടുവന്നു് ഉള്ള തുകകളാണെന്നു. ഇദ്ദേയാഗത്തിന്റെ നടത്തിപ്പിൽ പ്രധാനമായി നോക്കേണ്ടതും പരസ്പര സഹായം ആണു്, പരസ്പര സഹായം ഇല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഈ കൌൺസിലിനു ഒരു ഫെർമുണ്ടാകാതെ ഇല്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ കൌൺസിൽ തുടങ്ങുന്നതോടു കൂടി പരസ്പരസഹായം നാം ശരിയായി പഠിച്ചുറങ്ങിരിക്കേണ്ടതാകുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ടും പരസ്പരസഹായത്തെ പറ്റി നാട്ടിലെ പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്കു് വാസ്തവമായ അറിവു ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കുന്ന ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെണ്ടിൽ നിന്നും കഴിയുന്നത്ര സഹായം ചെയ്യുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നു് ആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നതു് ഏറ്റവും ന്യായമായിട്ടുള്ളതാണു്. മേൽപ്രസ്താവിച്ച കാരണങ്ങളാൽ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ എല്ലാവരും ശരിയായി അനുകൂലിക്കണമെന്നു അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടുകൊണ്ടു് ഇതിനെ ഞാൻ ബലമായി പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

As the resolution had been fully discussed and as no other member wanted to speak on it, the President called upon the mover to reply.

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL (*Trichur*).

Sir,

I am afraid that my honourable friend, who proposed the amendment to my resolution, did not fully understand my object in moving this resolution. Co-operative Societies have been working in the State for about 10 years and these Societies have been doing propaganda work. Now, the point is not whether the Government have not been doing anything in that direction. In the Report of the Government, on the Administration of the Co-operative Department, published in 1909, at page 3, the Registrar of the Co-operative Societies distinctly says that further progressive work must be done by non-officials.

All that the official Societies could do, within the limited time at their disposal, with the scanty allowance of Rs. 10,000, more or less, during the last 10 years, has been found to be absolutely insufficient. Page 21 of the Preliminary Budget explains how this amount is to be expended. Of the Rs. 11,300 budgetted for the Co-operative movement, Rs. 3,150 goes for the Registrar's salary and allowance, Rs. 4,225 goes to the salary of Inspectors, Head clerks, etc. Altogether, the balance left is about Rs. 4,000 and odd, for travelling allowance and propaganda work. That has been found to be inadequate. This Institute was started under the patronage of the Government, under the auspices of His Highness, who knew things much better than many of my critics here. The Maharaja kindly consented to be the Patron of this Institution. And, in this connection, I will invite the attention of the House here to Mr. Nicholson's Report to the Government of India, dated the 17th of June 1914, a few years after the movement was started.

Not that the Government wanted to run the Co-operative Societies for all time to come. Government wanted to set things in order so that the public may appreciate the benefit of the Co-operative Societies and slowly retire from the field. The movement has taken root 10 years ago. Ten years' work, under very good auspices, has not done much with the masses. Even the Registrar has observed in the Administration Report

the desirability of entrusting the matter to a non-official body. From the Report, it will be seen that the Government has spent a sum of Rs. 4,000 and odd on the Co-operative Society. If we turn to the Administration Report for last year, we find that an amount of not less than Rs. 4,000 was spent for propaganda work by the Government. That was found insufficient. Rs. 5,000 has been put down, not in a haphazard manner. That is the minimum amount we require for doing propaganda work in the State. The Government may reject the allotment altogether. It has the sympathy of His Highness, and the Diwan, as we know, is in full sympathy with it.

We cannot force the hands of the Government to sanction Rs. 5,000. At best, we make a recommendation and it is only in this way that the non-official members can put forward their representations for the better administration, the progressive administration of the State. We bring forward a resolution; we consider it in the House and we come to some decision. The Government either accepts or rejects it, *in toto* or piecemeal as it likes.

Mr. A. SANKARA MENON (*Government Advocate and Law Member*).

Sir, I objected on principle.

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL (*Trichur*).

I can positively say that there is absolutely no violation of any principle whatever. This involves the violation of no principles, but this is the legitimate exercise of powers conferred upon us by the Regulation and Rules. In the last 10 years, according to the Report, only 113 societies have been formed, whether this is enough or not is a matter for experts to decide.

The amendment, I fancy, is the result of a misapprehension. We do not stand in the way of the Government exercising its discretion. Government always retains powers of supervision and sanction. No movement, unless properly conducted, can do any good. If the Government is in sympathy with the Co-operative movement, it can do much and translate its sympathy into action. I request the House to make a unanimous recommendation for Rs. 5,000, which is only the minimum required. Money is allotted to be spent next year on scientific experimental work. The Government would be pleased to sanction Rs. 5,000 for an

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object which has been proclaimed to be useful. The House will be pleased to take all these things into consideration in voting for or against it.

President.—Now that the resolution and the amendment have been fully discussed, I shall, as stated in para 107 (2), of the Council Manual, put them to the votes of the Council. The resolution moved is:—

“This Council recommends to the Government
“that a grant-in-aid of not less than Rs. 5,000 be given
“to the Cochin Central Co-operative Institute for
“1101 M. E. in order to enable the Institute to
“carry on successfully its educational and propaganda
“work in the field of co-operation in the State”.

The amendment brought forward is:—

“This Council recommends to the Government
“that a grant-in-aid of not less than Rs. 1,000 be given
“to the Cochin Central Co-operative Institute for
“1101 M. E. in order to enable the Institute to
“carry on successfully its educational and propaganda
“work in the field of co-operation in the State”.

I shall first put the amendment to vote. Those who are in favour of the amendment will please raise their hands. Those against will now kindly do the same. The amendment is rejected, as the majority is against it.

The resolution also was then put to vote and it was carried by a majority.

President.—We shall now pass on to the next resolution. Probably, there may not be enough time to conclude the discussion of that resolution. Whatever could be done till 5 p. m. we shall do. Whatever remains undone may be adjourned for tomorrow. The resolution stands in the name of Mr. Sankara Puduval.

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL (*Trichur*).

Sir, I beg leave to move the following resolution:—

“This Council recommends that the usual working
“hours in all Primary Schools of the State, under
“Government control, be reduced to 4 periods of
“45 minutes each, commencing from 7-30 a. m.”

As I said, in the general discussion, there are over 700 Primary Schools in the State.

Mr. C. MATTAI (*Director of Public Instruction*).

No. I meant all the three sorts combined. All the 700 are not recognised.

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL (*Trichur*).

That is one for every square mile of land, excluding forests. So, it may not be difficult for the students to go and attend classes at 7-30. There is no necessity for cramming the minds of little children with unnecessary knowledge and, on high authority, I learn that 3 hours' instruction imparted is just enough to meet all present requirements. This method has another advantage in that it enables us to solve the problem of accommodation. By holding morning classes for the Primary section, that is from 7-30 to 10-30 or so, another set of classes could be held in the same building from 11 o'clock onwards. This experiment is now being carried on, both in the Ernakulam High School and at Chalakudi, a set of classes being held in the morning and another in the afternoon. It is not necessary to torture the brains of these little ones from 10-30 a. m. to 4-30 p. m. If classes be held for them in the morning, they could spend the remaining time usefully at home.

President.—Is it for 3 hours or for 4 periods of 45 minutes?

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL (*Trichur*).

Yes. In these circumstances, I request the honourable members to accept this resolution.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

I second this resolution, but I request the mover whether he would accept 8-30 a.m. as the time of beginning.

President.—Are you supporting the resolution as it is, or are you not?

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

I support only the first part of the resolution, that is, to hold morning classes in the Primary department.

President.—If you could not support the resolution in its entirety, you could not second it. Nobody seconds the resolution. Therefore the resolution may be taken as lost.

The Council rose for the day as it was 5 p. m.